

Resolutions 2025

1. Halting Britain's nuclear expansionism

CND Conference notes:

1. The British government's announcement, as part of its enhanced participation in NATO's nuclear mission, the purchase of 12 US F35A nuclear-capable fighter jets, to be stationed at RAF Marham with a likely delivery timeframe of 2029.
2. The purchases and ongoing costs, not yet published by the government, could be in the region of £1.5 billion. There are likely further costs: leasing US refuelling tankers, and costs to upgrade/refurbish so RAF Marham could house US nuclear bombs.

CND further notes:

1. Evidence of two deliveries of the US B61-12 nuclear bombs to RAF Lakenheath in July, the first time US nuclear weapons have been stationed in Britain since 2008.
2. CND conference believes:
3. The purchase of F35A fighter jets is a huge expansion of Britain's nuclear weapons capability, enabling it to launch nuclear weapons from both the sea and from the air.
4. This expansion increases the risk of nuclear weapons being used in war.
5. It further subordinates Britain's military and nuclear programme under NATO and US command.
6. The stationing of US nuclear bombs on British soil puts Britain on the frontline of a nuclear attack.
7. These developments risk Britain being dragged into Trump's reckless global wars – with nuclear flashpoints in Ukraine, the Middle East and the Asia Pacific.

CND conference resolves:

1. To build a strong campaign to halt this nuclear expansionism, working with peace, anti-war, climate action, global justice, anti-racist, anti-austerity and wider campaigning organisations, civil society, trade unions, MPs, students and young people.
2. To support CND regions and groups to do the same regionally and locally.
3. To continue and strengthen our campaigning work in Lakenheath Alliance for Peace and build on the successful protests at RAF Lakenheath.
4. To build successful actions at and activism around opposing the F35A deployments and the expansion and upgrade of RAF Marham

2. Missile Defence

Conference notes that:

1. Satellites have become a vital component for the US and UK military and play a key role in missile defence programmes.

2. The recent document 'Space Warfighting: A Framework for Planners' describes how the US will gain and maintain space superiority, it demonstrates how space is seen as another battleground and shows how the US seeks to control the various orbital regions and deny their use to others.
3. The UK already hosts US Space Force systems at Fylingdales, Menwith Hill and Croughton and has joined the US in several military space projects (e.g. the DARC radars proposed for Pembrokeshire) and agreements (e.g. 'Operation Olympic Defender').
4. President Trump's recent 'Golden Dome' missile defence project involves the stationing of hundreds of missiles in space and will create a new arms race.
5. Lockheed Martin has proposed a missile defence system for the UK and the MoD is pursuing its own Science and Technology Oriented Research and Development in Missile Defence project (STORM). The UK has also signed a letter of intent to join the 'European sky shield' air and missile defence project led by Germany.
6. Britain is expanding its military space programme with the DARC proposal in Pembrokeshire, further involving Britain in AUKUS.

Conference believes that:

1. Space is becoming increasingly militarised and there is a danger of its acceptance as a 'warfighting domain'.
2. A war in space constitutes a huge threat to international security – the loss of a vital satellite could have catastrophic consequences.
3. US and UK view space as a region for colonialization and exploitation, rather than as a 'global commons' as envisioned by the 'Outer Space Treaty'.
4. Missile defence systems give the illusion of first-strike survivability, which is counter to the Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) doctrine of nuclear deterrence
5. They also encourage others to expand their nuclear arsenals, blocking disarmament efforts.

Conference resolves to:

1. Reaffirm opposition to missile defence.
2. Press the UK government to strengthen and expand the Outer Space Treaty to prevent an arms race in outer space.
3. Support opposition to military bases and arms companies associated with the militarisation of space and missile defence.
4. Continue to support the Global Network's "Keep Space for Peace" week in October.
5. Continue to support the PARC Against DARC campaign.

3. Britain's role in European rearmament

Conference notes:

1. the likelihood of nuclear war is brought closer by the reemergence of a new nuclear arms race

2. that war between Russia and Ukraine, backed by Nato, carries a significant danger of nuclear escalation, and
3. that European member states have acceded to President Trump's demand to play a greater financial and military role in Europe
4. that steps by the EU to create a Europe-wide military architecture, including
 - a) loosening fiscal rules so member states can borrow to raise military spending, and
 - b) ReArm Europe Plan/Readiness 2030 to spend over €800bn by 2030 on stimulating military production, encouraging innovation, and creating an EU-wide market for military equipment
5. that the UK government
 - c) has adopted a 'Nato first' approach, with strengthened nuclear capability
 - d) is purchasing 12 F-35A fighter jets, which will join Nato's dual capable aircraft nuclear mission
 - e) is moving Britain to warfighting readiness with the new generation Dreadnought submarines and nuclear powered SSN-AUKUS submarines, and
 - f) plans to introduce a Defence Readiness Bill to improve war preparedness, and
 - g) encourage a 30% increase in cadets by 2030 through a voluntary gap year scheme
 - h) encourage volunteers to form a "home "guard" to defend such installations as nuclear plants against attack.
6. that the UK Government is positioning the UK to take a leading military role in Europe rearmament, including the UK-France Northwood Declaration, a nuclear cooperation accord, and the UK-Germany Kensington Treaty

CND believes the main threat of war in Europe comes from Nato expansion and that human and climate security is best served by a commitment to peace, conflict resolution and a rules-based international order, not rearmament.

CND resolves to significantly step up campaigning against European war preparations.

4. Building the Movement, building the links

CND notes:

1. The involvement and leading role of the CND Trade Union Advisory Group (TUAG) in the formation and organisation of the We Demand Change organisation (<https://wedemandchange.uk>), engaging with thousands of activists in meetings and events across England and Wales;
2. The WDC demands "Welfare not Warfare", giving an amplified space for CND's demand for nuclear disarmament throughout the Movement, reaching new audiences and inviting activists to join;
3. The WDC steering group includes trade union leaders alongside the Palestine Solidarity Campaign, the Peoples Assembly, the Peace & Justice Project, Disabled People Against Cuts, Strike Map, Fuel Poverty Action, Greener Jobs Alliance, Campaign against Climate Change, Stand Up To Racism, BFAWU trade union, and the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

CND believes:

1. The need for collaboration and coordination across the movement is essential at this time, especially in bringing the progressive campaigns into the trade union movement, workplaces and working class communities;
2. The world is framed by multifaceted crisis, war, genocide, climate change, austerity and the threat of the far-Right;
3. It is only through joined-up campaigning that we can unite an active critical mass capable of winning social change in favour of Peace with Social Justice.

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) resolves:

1. To continue to support and offer leadership within the We Demand Change campaign, emphasising the cross-Movement priority for Nuclear Disarmament, “Welfare not Warfare” and “Invest in Peace”, bringing together all those who believe there is an alternative to nuclear Armageddon, wars, climate denial, austerity, poverty, oppression, ultra-nationalism and racism; and
2. To support the We Demand Change organisation and calls for action through the CND Trade Union Advisory Group, prioritising the take-up of CND policies and demands across the labour and trade union movement and wider social movements.

5. Alternative Defence Review – Welfare not Warfare

Conference welcomes the publication of the Alternative Defence Review (ADR) as an important collaboration between the CND trade union advisory group and the RMT trade union in its aim to challenge the narrative of war and the jobs myth of defence spending within the labour movement.

Conference notes the:

1. Strategic Defence Review (SDR), the National Security Strategy (NSS25) and the UK Government’s Industrial Strategy 2025 is predicated on war readiness, and as a ‘nuclear nation’, making explicit the links between civilian and military nuclear programmes;
2. support of the main industrial unions for increased defence spending and militarisation;
3. false premise of the so called ‘defence dividend’ or military Keynesianism, linking employment and the defence industry, and central to the government’s growth strategy and plan for change;
4. increasing militarisation of education including the closer working of the MoD and Department of Education;
5. real critical challenges of our time are climate change, environmental degradation, future pandemics - made more likely by climate change, inequality and poverty, in the UK and globally;
6. Unite Union resolution to support worker led campaigns to boycott the handling of Israeli goods and services in their work places, and BDS campaigns in solidarity with Palestine;
7. increasing threats to the right to protest.

Conference resolves to:

1. work with affiliated trade unions and wider labour movement to support trade union interventions into the 'national conversation' to raise awareness of the ADR under the banner of 'welfare not warfare';
2. seek to develop joint materials with the education unions to highlight skills and education pathways into socially and ecologically useful work;
3. support and build links with trade union initiatives in the UK, European or International level organising against militarisation, war, and nuclear weapons, including the growing global movement of trade unionists refusing to handle, transport, or facilitate weapons that could be used in the ongoing genocide of the Palestinian people.
4. increase trade union affiliations and participation in CND campaigning, including against the return of US nuclear weapons to the UK;
5. support and promote actions in defence of the right to protest and collective action against increased militarisation.

6. Demonstrations at Embassies

CND:

1. reaffirms its primary purpose of campaigning to rid the world of ALL nuclear weapons – the most powerful and toxic weapons ever created, threatening all forms of life
2. notes the emphasis in the Strategic Defence Review (SDR) that "the UK is on a war footing"
3. notes the rapid escalation of the drive to war, turbo-charged by the release of the SDR which urges "enhanced UK participation in NATO's nuclear mission"
4. further notes there is no discussion in the SDR about how the UK and the world can get back on the road to peace and disarmament
5. condemns Russia's invasion and its use of nuclear threats as part of its strategy in Ukraine
6. condemns Trump's nuclear threat against Russia, moving nuclear capable submarines to 'appropriate regions'.

CND believes:

1. that genuine security can only be achieved by taking account of the security concerns of every country and the SDR fails completely to recognise this
2. that the nuclear weapons of every nuclear armed country fail to provide genuine security and involve a diversion of resources away from the true needs of the people
3. that the dangers of military doctrines promoting the use of so-called tactical nuclear weapons need to be highlighted
4. that the security concerns of the general public in all countries are legitimate, and that CND's visibility and credibility will be enhanced if we emphasise our opposition to ALL nuclear weapons

CND resolves:

1. resolves CND will contact the Embassies of all nuclear weapons states expressing opposition to ALL nuclear weapons, including Trident, and urging support for peaceful negotiated solutions to conflicts based on collective security
2. welcomes London CND visits to TPNW and nuclear weapon states embassies to mark UN International Day of Peace.

7. Promoting the Alternative Defence Review- Now More than Ever

Conference notes:

1. In his preface to the Strategic Defence Review, Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer boasted “the largest sustained increase in defence spending since the Cold War” allegedly to counter “multiple direct threats” in “the world itself beset by volatility and deep uncertainty”.
2. The government argues much of “the largest sustained increase” is intended for “a modernised nuclear deterrent” termed “the bedrock of the UK’s defence and the cornerstone of its commitment to NATO and global security”.
3. 3.CND’s working group published our Alternative Defence Review in May 2025 debunking the myth that defence spending promotes growth in the economy and advocated for a genuinely open public debate on the UK’s increasing militarisation alongside stronger scrutiny and democratic accountability.

In the light of our grave concern at the present Labour government’s promotion of nuclear militarisation in UK society and Europe.

Conference with some urgency resolves to:

1. Promote the content of the Alternative Defence Review and further related publications as widely as possible 2) Inform our national membership, new members, local CND groups, area groups, regions, affiliated organisations, trade unions, sympathetic political parties, activists in other groups, MPs, local councillors, UN supporters, continental supporters, and the uncommitted public to oppose the “nuclear deterrent narrative” using our Review.
2. Assist members and all the above to promote open political debate, within a convenient geographical proximity to each other, to maintain awareness and opposition to public militarisation and government nuclear rearmament in the Strategic Defence Review in the period leading up to the next General Election and beyond.

8. Rise of Reform and the far-right

CND Conference notes

1. The rise of Reform UK (RUK) with 4 MPs and 2 directly elected mayors, and now controlling twelve local councils;
2. That Nigel Farage described nuclear weapons “the really decisive option” (Express, 2024).
3. The rise in fascist organisation in the UK and across the world, with organised public actions targeting Black and Muslim people, migrants and asylum seekers, promoting white supremacy, misogyny and war on Islam, including hundreds of thousands of active supporters of the self-styled Islamophobe Stephen Yaxley-Lennon (ka “Tommy Robinson”), with links to RUK;
4. The decision of CND Policy Conference 2024 to support the Stand Up To Racism organisation challenging RUK, also supported by the Trades Union Congress.

CND Conference believes:

3. That the continued austerity policies of central government, producing the most extreme divisions of wealth and poverty in the UK for over 100 years has produced discontent and alienation from parliamentary democracy; and
4. That the lack of effective political alternative to the far right has led to widespread electoral support as a vote of protest at the lack of representation in Parliament, with the consequent rise of fascist and ultra-nationalist organisations promoting violence on the streets and against minority groups.

CND Conference resolves:

1. To publicly oppose the far right internationally and Reform UK;
2. To highlight the links between nuclear weapons, colonisation and white supremacy, and the disproportionate and negative impact of the global nuclear weapons system on marginalised communities notably indigenous, black, brown and people of colour; and
3. Continue to actively support the campaign events, protests and publicity of the Stand Up To Racism organisation, placing a specific and detailed emphasis on the link between ultra-nationalism and war, and promoting the unity demand of “Welfare not Warfare”.

9. Nuclear implications of the Israel-US conflict with Iran

CND Conference notes

1. Israel and the US carried out military attacks on Iranian nuclear facilities in June, despite
 - a) their clear and unambiguous illegality under international law
 - b) IAEA confirmation that no evidence supported claims that Iran was developing nuclear weapons, and
 - c) US National Intelligence Director’s testimony to Congress that Iran’s stocks of enriched uranium did not mean it was building nuclear weapons
2. Israel:
 - d) is an undeclared nuclear weapons state
 - e) has not signed the NPT

- f) does not permit IAEA inspection of its nuclear facilities, and
- g) at the outset of the attacks, Prime Minister Netanyahu called for regime change, urging the people of Iran to overturn their leaders

3. Iran:

- h) is a signatory to the NPT
- i) asserts its nuclear programme is for peaceful purposes
- j) before the June attacks, made clear its willingness to return to its JCPoA obligations if sanctions were lifted

CND Conference further notes

- 4. during the attacks, Prime Minister Netanyahu publicly called for regime change, urging Iranians to oust their leaders
- 5. President Trump National Security Presidential Memorandum 2, February 2025, includes denying Iran intercontinental ballistic missiles as well as other asymmetric and conventional weapons capabilities.

CND Conference decides CND will:

- 1. campaign for talks to re-establish a nuclear weapons agreement in return for removing nuclear-related sanctions and permitting nuclear inspections, whilst
- 2. continuing to build support amongst public and government for a nuclear-weapons free zone agreement as an indispensable component of a lasting peace in the Middle East.